

Message Text

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21/13

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 OMB-01 AID-20 ABF-01 TRSE-00 /211 W

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R 220102Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1367

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UNGA SREF

SUBJ: ACTIVITIES OF UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

1. SUMMARY: IN CALL ON AMBASSADOR BENNETT, SADRUDDIN AGA KHAN, UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (HCR) REPORTED FAIR PROGRESS IN GETTING POLITICAL REFUGEES OUT OF CHILE AND VERY SUBSTANTIAL ACHIEVEMENT IN EFFECTING THREE-WAY EXCHANGE OF REFUGEES AND POWS AMONG INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH, WHICH HE REGARDS AS PRECONDITION TO ACHIEVING STABILITY ON SUB-CONTINENT. HE CITED WITH SOME SATISFACTION THAT \$6.4 MILLION HAS BEEN RAISED OUT OF \$14 MILLION TARGET. HCR, WHOS ETERM EXPIRES NEXT MONTH, HAS BEEN ASKED TO STAY ON BY SYG AND WILL DO SO FOR UNDETERMINED PERIOD. HE IS SCHEDULED TO REPORT TO THIRD COMITE OF CURRENT GA NOV 26 AND WILL RETURN TO GENEVA DEC 3. PRIOR TO THAT DATE HE INTENDS TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND HOPES TO CALL ON SECRETARY KISSINGER. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT, NOV 20, SADRUDDIN

AGA KHAN, UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (HCR) MADE FOLLOWING POINTS RE ACTIVITIES OF HIS ORGANIZATION IN FOLLOWING AREAS.

3. A. CHILE. MANY THIRD-COUNTRY POLITICAL REFUGEES HAVE LEFT CHILE WITH ASSISTANCE OF HCR, BUT MANY REMAIN. APPROXIMATELY 2,600 HAVE REGISTERED WITH GOC, HCR'S MAJOR PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT SOME REFUGEES WHO HAVE BEEN GRANTED SAFE CONDUCT THROUGH EFFORTS OF HCR AND BEEN RELEASED HAVE BEEN REARRESTED. HE WAS, HOWEVER, UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SUCH ACTIONS WERE NOT ALWAYS RESULT OF GOC POLICY BUT REFLECTED GOC INABILITY TO CONTROL CARRABINEROS AT LOCAL LEVEL. HE HOPED HIS STATEMENT IN THIRD COMITE WOULD NOT BE USED AS OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK CHILE ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. IN THIS CONTEXT HE WOULD PREFER THAT GOC SPOKESMAN PLAY VERY LOW-KEY ROLE AND NOT GIVE HCR EXCESSIVE PRAISE FOR ITS ACTIVITIES IN CHILE, LEST HE OPEN BOTH GOC AND HCR TO ATTACK.

B. SUB-CONTINENT. HCR WELL SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF REPATRIATION EFFORTS AMONG PAKISTAN, INDIA AND BANGLADESH. AS OF 18 NOV FOLLOWING NUMBER OF PERSONS HAD BEEN MOVED BY CHARTER FLIGHTS UNDER HCR DIRECTION:

BENGALIS TO BANGLADESH 42,022

NON-BENGALIS TO PAKISTAN 15,803

POWS FROM INDIA TO PAKISTAN 26,613

STRANDED PAKISTANIS FROM NEPAL 6,166

TO PAKISTAN

TOTAL 90,604

AS THESE FIGURES SHOW, MORE THAN A QUARTER OF 90,000 PAKISTANIS HELD AS POWS IN INDIA HAVE NOW BEEN RETURNED. IN SUMMARY PRINCE SADRUDDIN PLEASED WITH THESE RESULTS BECAUSE HE REGARDS RESETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED PEOPLE AS ESSENTIAL PRECONDITION TO SETTLEMENT OF RECOGNITION PROBLEMS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF STABLE POLITICAL CONDITIONS ON SUB-CONTINENT.

C. CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM. HCR IS CARRYING OUT MARGINAL PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE BUT NOTHING COMPARABLE TO BILATERAL EFFORTS IN THAT AREA.

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4. INsofar AS HIS OWN PLANS ARE CONCERNED, PRINCE SADRUDDIN STATED THAT HE WOULD STAY IN NY TO REPORT TO THIRD COMITE ON NOV 26 AS SCHEDULED AND WOULD REMAIN UNTIL DEC 3. HIS 5-YEAR TERM EXPIRES AT THE END OF CURRENT GA, DEC 18, BUT SYG HAS RE-REQUESTED HIM TO STAY ON AS HCR, AT LEAST UNTIL CURRENT REPATRIATION ACTIVITIES IN SUB-CONTINENT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. SADRUDDIN HAS AGREED TO DO SO WITHOUT SETTING ANY DEFINITE TIME FOR HIS LEAVING HCR POST.

5. WHILE FUND RAISING IS CONTINUOUS PROBLEM AND ONE WHICH CONSUMES MUCH TIME, HCR EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT HAVING RAISED \$6.4 MILLION TOWARD REACHING OF \$14 MILLION TARGET AND STATED THAT \$2 MILLION RECEIVED FROM US HAS BEEN MOST HELPFUL IN MAKING HCR'S ACHIEVEMENTS POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT CHARTERING OF AIRCRAFT FOR THE THREE-WAY REPATRIATION EFFORT IN THE SUB-CONTINENT IS MAJOR EXPENSE, BUT A PRIORITY ACTIVITY INASMUCH AS A SLOW-DOWN IN REPATRIATION WILL DELAY THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE IN THE AREA.

6. HCR EXPLAINED THAT HE WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON DURING HIS STAY IN THIS COUNTRY AND WOULD LIKE TO CALL UPON SECRETARY KISSINGER, UNDER WHOM HE STUDIED AT HARVARD. IN THIS CONNECTION HE IS IN TOUCH WITH FRANCIS KELLOGG, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR REFUGEE AND MIGRATION AFFAIRS.
BENNETT

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